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DECORATIVE TEXTILE FABRICS

BRABANT TAPESTRY.



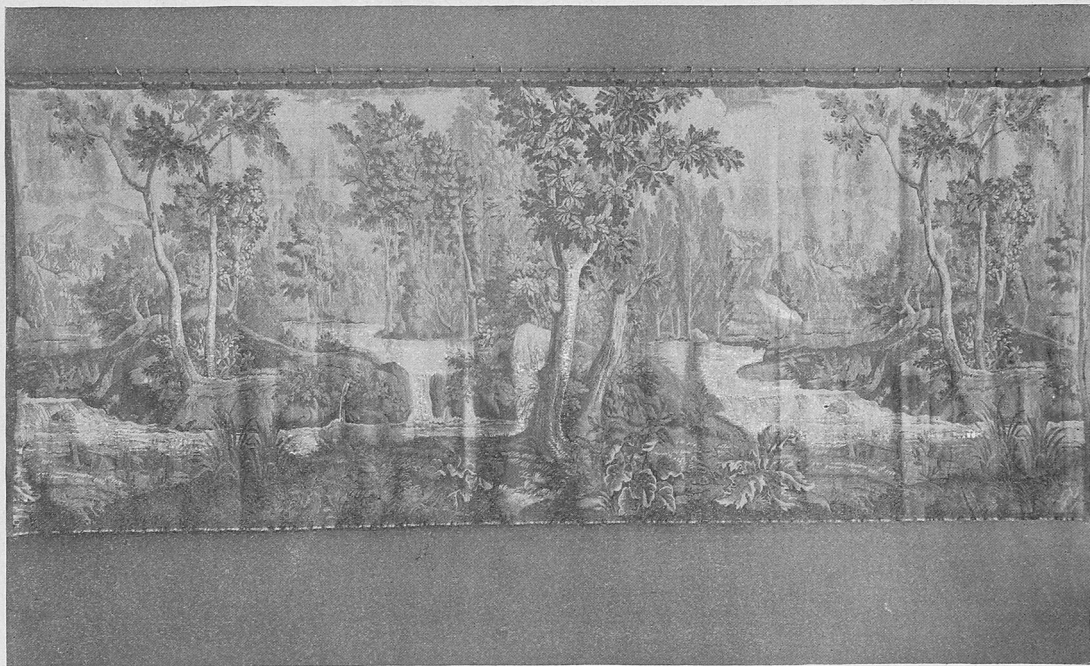
HE decoration of walls with hangings of woven tapestry is confessedly the highest style of mural decoration. Stately fabrics like the hand-made Gobelin and Aubusson tapestry, or the more economical, yet not less sumptuous, products of the Jacquard loom, exhibiting magnificent reproductions of landscapes, historic or hunting scenes, heroic personages, etc., wrought in soft, yet intense colorings, convey a greater impres-

sion of magnificence and restfulness than any other known decorative fabric. The end and aim of all decoration is to fill the mind with a sense of enthusiastic rest, whereby the finer feelings

and is the largest example of Jacquard tapestry ever produced.

The tapestry is being exhibited at Johnson & Faulkner warerooms in Union Square, the idea having been conceived by Mr. Edward Faulkner, of the firm, under whose superintendence this notable undertaking has been brought to a successful issue. In May, 1893, Mr. Faulkner went to Paris, and selected a pattern for reproduction from the national collection of tapestries belonging to the French Government. The official director in charge of the collection was surprised at the vastness of the undertaking, and anxiously awaited the result; for never before had so large a subject been executed in an ordinary loom. The work was brought to a successful termination in about a year, which, as a Gobelin tapestry, would have required at least five years to execute.

As before mentioned, the height, or width, of the fabric is seventy



BRABANT TAPESTRY AT JOHNSON & FAULKNER'S, NEW YORK.

of our nature are enriched and caressed with the beauty of the environment. Only the very wealthy can afford to decorate the walls of their dwellings with Gobelin or Aubusson tapestry, but it is fortunately possible to realize the same effects in tapestry woven in the ordinary loom, and the needs of thousands make an experiment of this kind interesting from an economical as well as an artistic standpoint. We were shown a few days ago an achievement that merits the fullest interest on the part of decorators and the public in general. It was a piece of Brabant tapestry 78 inches in height, and each repeat of the pattern thirteen feet in length, the subject being a very effective landscape reproduced from a Gobelin tapestry of Louis XIV. period,

eight inches, to which may be added one, or other, of two match borders, which are supplied in twelve, or twenty inch, widths. The tapestry costs ten dollars a yard, a most moderate price, the low price being, indeed, the special feature of the fabric.

The details of the composition, such as trees, rocks and waterfalls, are extremely well defined, the picture possessing a fine perspective. The absence of figures makes the decoration the more desirable for general application, while the coloring has been adjusted to harmonize with the widest possible range of contrast. The tapestry is an admirable decoration for halls, libraries and dining rooms, and its possibilities in the decoration of public buildings are far reaching and significant.